

October 16, 1958

Dr. Robert E. Billingham  
Wistar Institute  
36th and Woodland  
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Dear Robert:

While going over the literature on mechanisms of antibody formation I realized that I did not have the benefit of reprints of your opera magna on acquired tolerance. As at Stanford we will certainly be going into this type of work in a rather enthusiastic way, I would like to beg you whether you can spare any copies in this series. I can assure you they would be put to very good use indeed. I am appending a little summary of those papers on which you are an author that we already have.

You might be interested to see the enclosed speculation and I would wonder whether you had any comment of it, particularly on the point that it may be necessary to maintain the presence of an antigen for the maintenance of acquired tolerance. This would suppose that the self-recognition mechanism is in effect the continued presence of the actual antigens in the cells throughout the life of the animal.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Medical Genetics

JL/jp